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CUBA.

Report on yellow fever and smallpox in Habana.

HABANA, May 6, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that yesterday (May 5) I paid one of my frequent visits to all of the eight hospitals in and around the city, including the military, civil, and private institutions, and that I ascertained that nearly all of the yellow fever that there is here at present is among the soldiers in the military hospital. During the week ended yesterday 12 new cases of that disease occurred among the troops and 5 deaths.

There had entered in the same period into all of the remaining seven civil institutions but 2 cases, 1 of which had died and the other was convalescing. One of those cases came from the arsenal. As more than nine-tenths, in fact almost all the cases of yellow fever find their way into one or the other of the hospitals, a pretty close estimate of the number of cases can generally be made. Yesterday, for the first time in over six weeks, we had some rain. To-day is very warm (83° F.) and muggy, with prospects of more rain. The effect of these warm rains will naturally be increase of disease, particularly among the many soldiers in and around Habana and along the Trocha.

Smallpox, which has existed here for more than 18 months, is again on the increase, and fears are entertained that it may become an epidemic. As a large number of those who become afflicted with that disease (except troops) do not go to hospitals, but remain in private houses, and as no report is made of them, the total number of cases can only be estimated approximately by knowing the number of deaths, and calculating from that standard there must have been from 60 to 75 new cases, at least, during the week ending yesterday. A majority of those cases were among civilians. In the outlying towns there are some cases also.

Measles has been very prevalent for some weeks past, but the mortality from that disease in this climate is very small.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. M. BURGESS,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

Smallpox and yellow fever in Cienfuegos.

Under date of May 3, the United States Consul at Cienfuegos reports as follows:

The smallpox epidemic is becoming quite alarming, there being over 300 cases in the town and its suburbs, according to reliable information. There were 20 deaths from this disease during the week ended May 3, being an increase of 12 over the previous week.

Yellow fever.—There was 1 death from this disease at the municipal hospital. No other cases are reported.

Scarlet fever.—Several cases in town.

EGYPT.

Report on the prevalence of cholera in Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT, April 27, 1896.

SIR: In reply to your letter dated 8th instant, received to-day, I have the honor to state that the official returns, supplied by the international

quarantine board here for the week ended February 25 last, stated that there had been 22 cases of cholera in this city, of which 13 proved fatal. For the period, December 29 last to 26th instant, inclusive, there have been 130 cases of cholera in this city, of which 115 proved fatal. Under separate cover I send you all the official bulletins to date, believing that they will interest you.

All Egyptian ports (except this) and the surrounding villages have been free of epidemic disease since January 28 last, with the exception that on 16th instant a case of cholera, which proved fatal, was reported at Assiout (Upper Egypt) on a person arrived from this city. The disease is confined to natives and Europeans of the most humble classes, except in two cases, when both the patients recovered.

Trusting that this report will meet with your requirements, I am,

Respectfully, yours,

JAMES HEWAT,
United States Consular Agent.

JAPAN.

No new case of plague in Yokohama—Increase of plague in Canton and Hongkong.

YOKOHAMA, April 18, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the case of plague which was brought here by the steamship *Gaelic*, and fully reported upon by me under date of April 9, failed to communicate the disease in a single instance, and, of course, all danger is now over so far as this importation of infection is concerned. No case of the malady has been found upon any ship arriving at the various ports of Japan from Hongkong, unless the case upon steamship *Chittagong*, also reported in my letter of the 9th, was really an exceptional and very slight example of the disease.

The plague is steadily increasing in Canton and Hongkong, despite the efforts of the sanitary authorities in the latter place. The official returns of the number attacked in Hongkong are far below the actual facts, on account of the concealment of cases, and, even more, because a large proportion of the sufferers, on the first indications of the disease, repair to Canton, or other points under Chinese jurisdiction. I fear that the epidemic will not be checked until the advent of dry, hot weather in midsummer.

One fatal case of cholera is reported in Tokyo, April 17.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

Inspection of vessels at Yokohama.

YOKOHAMA, April 18, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, since my last return, of date March 15, I have inspected vessels as follows, all being free from suspicion of infection with the exception of the steamships *Gaelic* and *Chittagong*, on which I have specially reported to you under date of April 9: March 20, ship *Charmer*, bound for New York via ports; March 23, steamship *Strathleven*, bound for Tacoma, and steamship *Rio de Janeiro*, bound for San Francisco; March 30, schooner *St. Lawrence*, bound for